

Date: May 3, 2001 Label No. EL856659189US

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Sandra Stocklinski

*Sandra Stocklinski*

Name (Print)

Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Lotfi HEDHLI et al. )

Application Number: 09/774,266 )

Group Art Unit: 1745

Filed: January 30, 2001 )

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: FLUOROPOLYMER RESINS CONTAINING IONIC OR IONIZABLE GROUPS AND PRODUCTS  
CONTAINING THE SAME

### **SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 3, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

#### **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please substitute the following amended parts of the specification as indicated in the above-identified application. (A version of the amended specification with markings to show the changes made is also attached.)

On page 3, paragraph beginning on line 22 and ending on line 25.

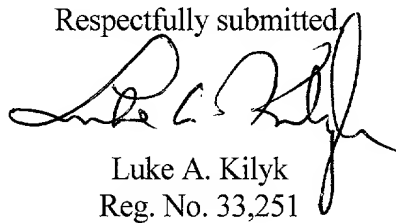
--WO 98/22989 describes a polymeric membrane containing polystyrene sulfonic acid and poly(vinylidene fluoride), which provides reduced methanol crossover in direct methanol fuel cell (DMFC) use. However, the polymer blending process described does not provide an acceptable blend and the sulfonation steps are complicated.--

**REMARKS**

The amendment to the specification is editorial in nature and no new matter has been added. The correct reference number is cited on page 11, line 22. Prompt and favorable consideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0925.

Respectfully submitted



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

[WO 98/22898] WO 98/22989 describes a polymeric membrane containing polystyrene sulfonic acid and poly(vinylidene fluoride), which provides reduced methanol crossover in direct methanol fuel cell (DMFC) use. However, the polymer blending process described does not provide an acceptable blend and the sulfonation steps are complicated.

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